

# HOLLY SMITH MA ACR

## BOOK AND PAPER CONSERVATOR & BOOKBINDER

Email: [holly.rachel.smith@gmail.com](mailto:holly.rachel.smith@gmail.com)  
Websites: [www.hollysmithconservation.com](http://www.hollysmithconservation.com)  
& [www.etsy.co.uk/shop/HollySmithBooks](http://www.etsy.co.uk/shop/HollySmithBooks)

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### EMPLOYMENT:

#### TATE MUSEUMS

SINCE MAY 2019

##### *Freelance Conservator*

I work as a freelance conservator for Tate Museums helping their team of conservators on a variety of tasks including: condition checking artworks before they go on loan, completing loan administration and locating and photographing artworks.

#### HOLLY SMITH BOOKS & HOLLY SMITH CONSERVATION

SINCE JANUARY 2018

##### *Owner*

In January 2018 I established a private book conservation & bookbinding practise working out of my home studio. In this time I have carried out conservation work on several privately owned books and blogged about the work on my website.

I've opened an Etsy shop to sell some of my bookbindings and in 2019 was invited to take part in Christmas Artist Open House as well as MADE Brighton. I have also completed some special commission books for individuals.

I have begun turning my teaching experience to bookbinding classes, including more recently a 2 hour workshop at Roedean School and a Japanese Style Bookbinding workshop for colleagues at The National Archives as part of a learning and development day for staff.

#### THE INSTITUTE OF CONSERVATION

SINCE SUMMER 2018

##### *Chair - Book & Paper Group Events and Training Subcommittee*

As the chair of the E&T Subcommittee I'm responsible for overseeing a team of 6 committee members, organising quarterly meetings and delegating tasks to the team to ensure the implementation of a regular schedule of training opportunities for Book & Paper Conservators in the UK. In this role I also manage the budgets & eventbrite booking pages for workshops, lectures and conferences. I have also purchased equipment that has enabled the committee to live stream some of it's events so help improve accessibility.

*Senior Conservator- Book and Paper Archives*

I work as part of a busy Collection Care Department on a variety of different projects both as a team member and team leader. Conservation treatments range from remedial repairs, making documents accessible to readers, to in-depth research projects around the collections' most damaged books. I also have responsibilities to supervise interns and organise outreach activities to educate staff and the public about the work of Collection Care.

I have recently been organising a research project to survey some of the oldest limp parchment bindings in the archives' collection focusing on the latest data management processes and issues, in line with Linked Data.

04/2014 - 01/2020

*Conservator- Book and Paper Archives*

I worked as one of two book conservators in the Collection Care Department. Carrying out a range of conservation treatments from minimal to interventive. Planning and overseeing projects in collaboration with staff and other stakeholders. Supervising interns.

I am routinely responsible for Customers Enquiries: answering calls to staff and readers when they require the advice or guidance of a conservator. I was recently the book and paper conservator consulted and filmed for Blue Peter as part of their 40th Anniversary Time Capsule Project.

11/2016-12/2017

*Conservation Manager - Exhibitions and Loans (maternity cover)*

Technical Competencies: Managed a team of 3 to ensure the success of a busy external loans and exhibitions programme. In this time I oversaw the loan of one of the volumes of the Great Domesday Book to Lincoln Castle.

I was also responsible for training new members of the team in mounting, framing and loans administration. I also trained several other members of the department to work as couriers to ease pressure off of the loans team during particularly busy periods.

## PZ CONSERVATION CIC

2012-2014

*HLF/ICON Training Programme in Lizzie Neville's private book conservation studio*

Worked as a trainee in a busy private conservation studio in Penzance. The work involved treating books owned by a mix of national institutions in London including the Imperial War Museums, National Gallery and Wellcome Collection, as well as privately locally owned books.

My outreach work involved developing and implementing a series of practical training days for employees and volunteers of local heritage institutions, and working to promote conservation in the local community.

## EDUCATION:

## - WEST DEAN COLLEGE

MA IN CONSERVATION STUDIES, SPECIALISING IN BOOKS AND LIBRARY

MATERIALS

2010-SEPT 2011

A self-directed survey and practical research project was conducted at the Victoria & Albert Museum, examining techniques and materials which could be used for infilling losses in 20th

Century coated paper materials. Conservation work was carried out on 20th Century magazines from the National Art Library and technical surface examination and replication was analysed with the use of a glossmeter.

- POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA, BOOKS CONSERVATION 2010-2011
  - GRADUATE DIPLOMA, BOOKS CONSERVATION (DISTINCTION) 2010
  - UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX 2008
- BA (HONS.) IN ENGLISH LITERATURE (UPPER SECOND CLASS HONOURS)